

MS#160301.1 (4938)
PATENT**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 11 to 28, with the following amended paragraph:

The objects are stored in a database maintained by a software application implementing the Web-Based Enterprise Management (WBEM) protocol such as WINDOWS Windows[®] Management Instrumentation (WMI), which is a component of the Microsoft[®] Windows[®] operating system by Microsoft Corporation. The WBEM software application is a management mechanism that provides uniform data collection into the database and data management of the database to manage and monitor local and remote computer systems. The WBEM software application stores in the database the objects representing collected statistics relating to the monitored computers. The database includes statistics relating to a single computer or multiple computers. The statistics within the database relate to the physical disks on the monitored computer, software applications executing on the computer, or any other performance or event-based information. Another software application (e.g., a monitoring application) interfaces with the database to collect and analyze information for a user. During a user-defined interval, the monitoring application interfaces with the database to dynamically identify one or more objects, examine the attribute values of each identified object, and perform one or more functions in response to the examined values. The monitoring application maintains a list of the identified objects across multiple intervals. Objects are added to and/or deleted from the list as appropriate. For example, a particular dynamic object may persist across only one or two identification intervals. In this manner, the monitoring application considers whether previous action was undertaken in response to a threshold comparison during a previous interval for a specific object. In one embodiment, the monitoring application is an in-process dynamic-link library to WMI.